U.S. Patent Application of Huang et al.

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A method for suppressing undesired viral growth in a host which comprises administering to the host an effective amount of a compound of the formula:

wherein R_1 , R_2 , R_3 and R_4 are independently selected from the group consisting of HO-, CH_3O - and CH_3 (C=O)O-. The method is exemplified by inhibiting Tat transactivation of a lentivirus and in suppressing Herpes simplex virus.